

CLAIMS:

I claim

1. A collapsible shipping container comprising:

- (a) a base frame having opposite first and second sides each having a length and a height;
- (b) a first side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said first side panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured to said side base extending substantially the length and height of the first side;
- (c) a second side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said second side panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured to said base extending substantially the length and height of the second side; and
- (d) a cover securable between said first and second side panels.

2. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, further including a front bracket and a rear bracket with means for attaching to said base frame and with means for mounting a bicycle frame into a fixed position to said base.

3. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, further including at least one tensioner comprising a flexible material attached to the edges of said first and second side panels with means for attachment to fixed points of said collapsible shipping container.

4. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, further including at least one caster secured to said base frame.

5. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, further including at least one crossbar attached to said top cover to secure said cover between said first and second side panels along their front, top, and rear edges.

6. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, wherein said first side panel includes means for attachment to said first side of said base frame, said first side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to

each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

7. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, wherein said second side panel includes means for attachment to said second side of said base frame, said second side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

8. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, wherein said base frame is a bicycle trailer.

9. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 8, wherein said bicycle trailer has a spoked wheel.

10. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 9, wherein said spoked wheel is replaceable with a smaller non-spoked wheel.

11. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 1, wherein said base frame is a collapsible frame, having a mounting body with an extendable arm, swing arms, and side walls defining the bottom and sides of said base frame, hinge means disposed in said extendable arms, swing arms and side walls to effect a substantially complete collapse of said base frame.

12. A collapsible shipping container for use with a bicycle trailer of the type having a frame with opposite first and second sides, a floor defining a compartment having a height and length, and a spoked wheel which can be replaced with a smaller non-spoked wheel during shipping, said container comprising:

- (a) a first side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said first panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the first side;

- (b) a second side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said second panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the second side; and
- (c) a cover securable between said first and second side panels.

13. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, further including a front bracket and a rear bracket with means for attaching to said base frame and with means for mounting a bicycle frame into a fixed position.

14. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, further including a plurality of tensioners comprising a flexible material attached to the edges of said first and second side panels with means for attachment to fixed points of said collapsible shipping container.

15. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, further including a plurality of casters secured to said base frame.

16. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, further including at least one crossbar attached to said top cover to secure said cover between said first and second side panels along their front, top, and rear edges.

17. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, wherein said first side panel includes means for attachment to said first side of said base frame, said first side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

18. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 12, wherein said second side panel includes means for attachment to said second side of said base frame, said second side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top-rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each

other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

19. A collapsible shipping container in combination with a bicycle trailer of the type having a frame with opposite first and second sides, a floor defining a compartment having a height and length, and a spoked wheel which can be replaced with a smaller non-spoked wheel during shipping, said container comprising:

- (a) a first side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said first panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the first side;
- (b) a second side panel comprised of a plurality of sub-panels hingedly joined so said second panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the second side; and
- (c) a cover securable between said first and second side panels; whereby the bicycle can be disassembled and packed inside of the collapsible shipping container in combination with the bicycle trailer for shipping, and the bicycle can be reassembled and the collapsible shipping container in combination with the bicycle trailer can be connected to the rear end of the bicycle and used for carrying travel gear.

20. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, further including a front bracket and a rear bracket with means for attaching to said base frame and means for mounting a bicycle frame into a fixed position to said brackets.

21. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, further including a plurality of tensioners comprising of a flexible material attached to the edges of said first and second side panels with means for attaching to fixed points of said collapsible shipping container.

22. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, further including a plurality of casters secured to said base frame.

23. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, further including at least one crossbar attached to said top cover to secure said cover between said first and second side panels along their front, top, and rear edges.

24. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first side panel includes means for attachment to said first side of said base frame, said first side panel comprising of a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

25. The collapsible shipping container as set forth in claim 19, wherein said second side panel includes means for attaching to said second side of said base frame, said second side panel comprising of a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top-rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other.

26. A collapsible shipping container for use with a bicycle trailer of the type having a frame with opposite first and second sides, a floor defining a compartment having a height and length, and a spoked wheel which can be replaced with a smaller non-spoked wheel during shipping, said container comprising:

- (a) a first side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other so said first side panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the first side;
- (b) a second side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other so said second side panel may be folded to a

collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the second side;

- (c) a cover securable between said first and second side panels;
- (d) a front bracket and a rear bracket with means for attaching said brackets to said bicycle trailer and with means for mounting a bicycle frame in a fixed position to said brackets;
- (e) at least one tensioner comprising of a flexible material attached to the edges of said first and second side panels with means for attaching to fixed points of said collapsible shipping container;
- (f) at least one caster secured to said bicycle trailer; and
- (g) at least one crossbar that is attached to said top cover for securing between said first and second side panels along their front, top, and rear edges.

27. A collapsible shipping container in combination with a bicycle trailer of the type having a frame with opposite first and second sides, a floor defining a compartment having a height and length, and a spoked wheel which can be replaced with a smaller non-spoked wheel, said container comprising:

- (a) a first side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other so said first side panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the first side;
- (b) a second side panel comprising a top front panel, a bottom front panel, a top rear panel and a bottom rear panel, said top front panel and said bottom front panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom front panel and said bottom rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, said bottom rear panel and said top rear panel being hingedly joined to each other, and said top rear panel and said top front panel being hingedly joined to each other so said second side panel may be folded to a collapsed position or unfolded to a use position and secured extending substantially the length and height of the second side;
- (c) a cover securable between said first and second side panels;

- (d) a front bracket and a rear bracket with means for attaching said brackets to said bicycle trailer and with means for mounting a bicycle frame in a fixed position to said brackets;
 - (e) at least one tensioner comprising of a flexible material attached to the edges of said first and second side panels with means for attaching to fixed points of said collapsible shipping container;
 - (f) at least one caster secured to said bicycle trailer; and
 - (g) at least one crossbar that is attached to said cover for securing between said first and second side panels along their front, top, and rear edges; whereby the bicycle can be disassembled and packed inside of the collapsible shipping container in combination with the bicycle trailer for shipping, and the bicycle can be reassembled and the collapsible shipping container in combination with the bicycle trailer can be connected to the rear end of the bicycle and used for carrying travel gear.
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